



Shifting Paradigms and Securing Long-Term Funding

Dear Doris,

We are very excited and grateful to report on a few big forward leaps in our work. Our regional regenerative meat summit and dinner at Mulvaney's in Sacramento on June 28th were a big success! Secondly, the California Legislature included \$35 million in California's 2023 State Budget to protect ongoing operations of the California Nutrition Incentive Program (CNIP). [Back in 2009](#), ROC co-created the [California Market Match Consortium](#) (which is funded by CNIP) to provide nutrition incentives that help low-income families increase the purchase and consumption of fruits, nuts, and vegetables and increase sales for small and mid-size farms. And, lastly, AB 408 has passed a critical hurdle....

Successful Regional Regenerative Meat Summit & Dinner Celebration

The regional regenerative meat summit and dinner event was sold out with 110 participants. In attendance were around 50 ranchers from our six project regions, several state and government officials, meat processors, butchers, chefs, investors, and many other allies. We are greatly appreciative for the attendance of five representatives from the University of California Office of the President; their engagement in this project is critically important as the first phase of our project to [make the California meat supply chain more resilient and local](#) is providing healthy, regeneratively produced meat to UC's ten campuses and five medical centers which serve 600,000 meals per day.

Thank you to everyone who contributed and showed up!

A big shoutout to Patrick Mulvaney and his amazing staff for pulling off yet another successful, fun and delicious dinner! The brainstorm sessions at the summit as well as the dinner generated very lively and fruitful conversations. We are working on keeping the momentum going, so stay tuned for updates!



110 stakeholders attended the summit & dinner. Each table represented a strategic mix of ranchers, state and government officials, meat processors, butchers, chefs, investors and other allies.



Lots of animated discussion were held around three brainstorm topics: animal aggregation & transportation, processing & storage and definition of regenerative and regional meat.



CDFA Secretary Karen Ross, USDA Under Secretary of Ag Jennifer Lester Moffitt, CRNA Secretary Wade Crowfoot and Congresswoman Doris Matsui.



Pre-dinner outdoor reception at Mulvaney's B&L on a beautiful, warm Sacramento evening.



From l-r: Scott Wilkerson, Chief Procurement Officer Systemwide Operations, Marilyn Biscotti, Senior Commodity Manager, and Paul Williams, Chief Procurement Officer and Associate Vice President.



From l-r: Meagan Torres, Associate Vice Chancellor & Chief Procurement Officer, UC Merced, Marilyn Biscotti, Senior Commodity Manager, Strategic Sourcing, UCOP, Abim Odusoga, Associate Director, Sustainability & Supplier Diversity, UCOP.

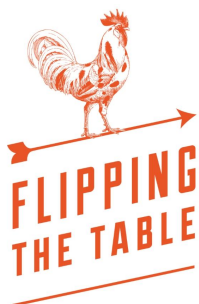
Click on the video below to see the summit presentations and panel discussions. Click [here](#) for an overview of all summit clips.



\$35 million in California's 2023 State Budget for California Nutrition Incentive Program (CNIP)

PHI and Roots of Change Statement on Continued Funding of the California Nutrition Incentive Program in California's 2023 State Budget:

The Public Health Institute (PHI) and its program Roots of Change (ROC) applaud the California Legislature and Governor Newsom for including \$35 million in California's 2023 State Budget to protect ongoing operations of the California Nutrition Incentive Program (CNIP). With critical nutrition security programs being threatened at the federal level, California is continuing to support the health of those most in need. [READ MORE](#)



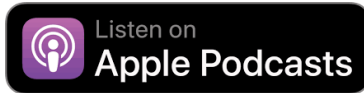
Flipping the Table Podcast

**A Conversation with Carrie Balkcom,
Executive Director, American Grassfed
Association**

In this episode Michael speaks with **Carrie Balkcom**, a chef, rancher and the [Executive Director of the American Grassfed Association](#). The AGA is the nation's independent certifier confirming that cattle, bison,



sheep and goats eat only grasses in pastures for their entire lives. This ensures the animals live the stress-free life that comes from consuming only those foods they have evolved to eat. If you care about humane animal treatment and healthy meat, you will enjoy this conversation.



Update on AB 408 Climate-Resilient Farms, Sustainable Healthy Food Access, and Farmworker Protection Bond Act of 2024



Great news! The 2023 Food and Farm Resilience bond bill, AB 408 (Wilson), passed the Senate Governance and Finance Committee!

[Watch the hearing](#) attended by several coalition members (starts around timestamp 2:02:06); there was a great discussion and debate between

Assemblymember Wilson and the two Republican Senators who voted against the bill (Dahle and Seyarto).

ROC is part of the [Food and Farm Resilience Coalition](#) focusing on these four pillars: sustainable agriculture, farmworker health and well-being, climate-friendly, healthy food access and regional food infrastructure.

As AB 408 moves through the legislative process, we encourage individuals and organizations to sign the AB 408 [letter of support](#) or [email us](#) directly to get involved with future efforts.

Pictured above (from left to right) Professor emerita Louise Jackson, Sandra Nakagawa (CalCAN), Paula Kahn (California for Pesticide Reform). Image source: CalCAN.

Creating Regenerative Supply Chains – a Podcast by Farm to Table Talk with Michael R. Dimock



Regenerative small and mid-size livestock producers are beginning to see potential solutions to their marketing problems. Direct sales are happening online, at farmers markets and to restaurants but the links to larger institutions where there is need for grinding, braising and stew meats in large quantities is lacking. These are exactly the cuts that small to mid size ranches have trouble marketing so instead they accumulate in their freezers. **Michael Dimock, the President of Roots of Change**, sees this changing as work begins with the USDA, CA Department of Food and Ag and the University of California System (that feeds up to 600,000 people a day). [Read more](#)

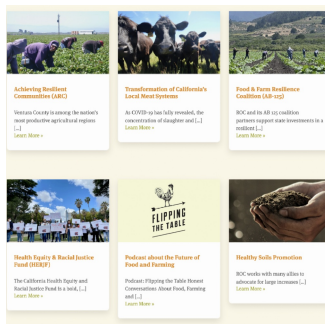
Creating Regenerative Supply Chains: Click to Hear the Conversation between Rodger Wasson and Michael R. Dimock

Thank you for your interest and support of our work!

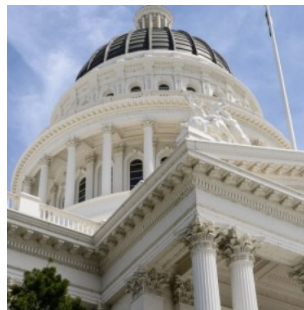
Doris Meier
Editor of the PULSE
Roots of Change

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Roots of Change is a program of the [Public Health Institute](#)

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